CITY OF ROCKLIN PRESS RELEASE



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CITY OF ROCKLIN ANNOUNCES THE ROCKLIN ROAD & I-80 INTERCHANGE LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

ROCKLIN, CA – Starting in April 2005, construction crews will begin a three month project to landscape the Rocklin Road & Interstate 80 interchange. When completed, the westbound and eastbound off-ramps will boast evergreen trees, shrubs and a granite monument welcoming visitors and residents into the City of Rocklin.

"Rocklin leaders, residents and staff all share a great pride in the natural beauty of our community," said Mayor Peter Hill. "With this project we are able to preserve that aspect while augmenting the most significant entrance into our City."

Designer Scott Robertson with Omni-Means was commissioned for this project and based his design concept on open landscape principles. Evergreen trees and shrubs will be added to each off-ramp while granite outcroppings will be gradually incorporated into a dynamic monument sign that will mark the entrance to the City. Energy saving solar panels and drip irrigation systems will also be used to keep each off-ramp watered and well lit.

This landscape project is also creative in its funding strategies and partnerships. The City saved taxpayer dollars by entering and winning a statewide competition for development projects from the State of California totaling \$250,000. The remaining \$1 million needed for the project was supplied from the Rocklin Redevelopment Agency.

Since no other City has tried to landscape a highway interchange, Rocklin entered into a groundbreaking partnership with Caltrans and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) that established operational standards for subsequent cities to follow.

"The City of Rocklin will do whatever it takes to make quality projects a reality," said Rocklin City Manager Carlos Urrutia. "Our partnerships with Caltrans and FHWA along with our creative funding techniques on this project are great examples of that philosophy."

During construction, both off-ramps will remain open and only minor lane closures are anticipated. Construction is estimated to be completed within three months.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES

The City of Rocklin can provide before, during and after photographs of this project upon request as well as architectural renderings. Please contact City Engineer Larry Wing at 916.625.5140.

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